

**Federal Defenders  
OF NEW YORK, INC.**

Southern District  
81 Main Street, Suite 300  
White Plains, N.Y. 10601  
Tel: (914) 428-7124 Fax: (914) 997-6872

David E. Patton  
*Executive Director  
and Attorney-in-Chief*

Susanne Brody  
*Attorney-in-Charge  
White Plains*

March 23, 2021

Via E-mail and ECF

The Honorable Judith McCarthy  
Magistrate Judge  
Southern District of New York  
300 Quarropas Street  
White Plains, NY 10601

Re: U.S. v. Francis Hughes  
20-MJ-07924

**SO ORDERED:**  
Application granted.

 3-23-21  
JUDITH C. MCCARTHY  
United States Magistrate Judge

Dear Honorable McCarthy:

I am writing in regard to Francis Hughes and to ask that you please modify the terms of his pre-trial release to allow him, with prior approval from pre-trial, to travel to my office to “virtually” meet with an expert using a computer. As background, Mr. Hughes was arrested on July 29, 2021 and charged with violating 18 U.S.C. § 2252A. Mr. Hughes was released to home detention pursuant to a \$50,000 bond and he was ordered not to use computers or devices that are connected to the internet.

So that I may help prepare for Mr. Hughes’ defense, I ask that Your Honor please modify the terms of Mr. Hughes’ release so that he may use a computer at my office to communicate with an expert about his case. If approved, Mr. Hughes would travel to my office and I would setup a laptop in a large conference room which would enable Mr. Hughes to communicate via video with the expert. Of course, I will be present and will supervise Mr. Hughes’ use of the computer.

I have communicated with Pretrial Officer Andrew Abbott and he does not object to this request. I have asked AUSA Marcia Cohen whether she objects, but I have not yet heard back from her.

Respectfully,



Benjamin Gold  
Assistant Federal Defender

cc: AUSA Marcia Cohen  
Pre-Trial Officer Andrew Abbott